

Abstract

In my bachelor thesis I focus on joint negotiations of Edvard Beneš as a representative of the Czechoslovak exile and Wenzel Jaksch as a representative of the Sudeten German exile. Since 1939, both politicians lived in exile in London and led talks on the post-war solution of the Sudeten German issue and the arrangements of the Sudetenland in Czechoslovakia and within Central Europe. At the beginning of the exile, both Beneš and Jaksch were willing to discuss a joint collaboration and their political actions, although their different ideas and visions were apparent right from the beginning and sometimes even collided. Yet, there was a good chance to create a compromise solution.

The ongoing war, rising anti-German sentiment in the Protectorate and UK and also strengthening of Beneš's position, the agreement started to become increasingly unlikely and Jaksch started to lose his political influence on developments in the exile inevitably and thus on the future postwar politics. Beneš has managed to carry some of the key points of his political agenda - recognition of Czechoslovakia Government in Exile (1941), renunciation of the Munich Agreement (1942) and obtaining of the fundamental consent of the British Government with the expulsion of the German minority from Czechoslovakia (1942) - which sealed the win over Jaksch and since that Beneš did not have to take any Jaksch's requirements into consideration. Finally in 1943 there was a definite termination of their cooperation.

By analysing the literature I try to specify the main reasons why negotiations between Beneš and Jaksch failed.